

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] In Figure 6, pop-up 140 includes layered windows 142, 144 and 146 for input of responses relating to characteristics which taken together define the quality of the relationship. These windows are identified by associated tabs ~~442T, 142T,~~ 144T and 146T, and can be opened by clicking on the associated tab. In the preferred embodiment shown the characteristics which determine the overall quality are commitment, trust and satisfaction. Preferably characteristics chosen to define the relationship quality are determined by the task, i.e. by the particular enterprise or division or department to be served, but will include at least system defined core characteristics such as trust and satisfaction so that a degree of comparability among ratings by different organizations is maintained.

Please replace paragraph [0047] with the following amended paragraph:

[0047] If he user has requested additional information, then at step 220 in Figure 5D ~~server~~ server 12 determines if the user is authorized to obtain such additional information, and if not enters an error routine at step 222. Details of such error routine form no part of the present invention and will not be discussed further here. If the user is authorized, then at step 224 server 12 downloads a pop-up shown in Figure 8 to obtain parameters for the inquiry request.

Please replace paragraph [0048] with the following amended paragraph:

[0048] Pop-up 230 in Figure 8 includes tabs 232 which identify whether the inquiry relates to possible or to an existing situation, tabs 234 which identify whether the inquiry relates to a sale, purchase, etc., and tabs ~~234-236~~ which identify the importance of the matter in terms of the dollar amount at stake.

Please replace paragraph [0054] with the following amended paragraph:

[0054] Returning to Figure 1, ~~server~~ 12 also communicates with relationship authority 28 through secure link 36. Authority 28 in turn communicates through network 30 with other systems 10 which are operated by other enterprises 32. Authority 28 accesses databases 14 in systems 10 operated by other enterprises 32 and abstracts value and quality ratings for various relationships other enterprises 32 have with various other parties, while removing critical or confidential information which enterprises 32 do not wish to share. In this manner an enterprise can incorporate the current experience of other enterprises which have relationships with a particular other party into its ratings of that other party. Preferably the extent and manner in which such other party ratings are incorporated is configurable and is based upon the task and or particular relationships to be rated. Preferably authority 28 is operated by a trusted third party who is relied upon to protect critical and confidential information so that information relating to the value and quality of relationships can be shared securely.

Please replace Abstract paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

#### **Abstract of the Disclosure-Invention**

~~A system for automatically generating and distributing information relating to relationships between an enterprise and other parties. The system includes a computer for processing documents and a database system which includes a database of information relating to relationships between an enterprise and other parties; and a server for controlling access to the database and for communicating with the computer. The computer is programmed to: monitor a document as it is processed by a user on the computer; identify a reference to a party in the document; and send information identifying the party to the server. The server is programmed to: receive the identifying information; access the database for information relating to a relationship between the enterprise and the party; and if a record relating to the party exists in the database, send the information relating to a relationship between the enterprise and the party to the computer. A method that allows knowledge, including subjective opinions, about relationships between an enterprise and other parties to be broadly shared in the enterprise who may have dealings with the various other parties. The information is generated, at least in part, based upon responses by system users to surveys generated by the a server when another party is identified. The information sent relates to the value of the relationship to the enterprise and to the quality of the relationship. The information is also generated, at least in part, based~~

Appln. No.: 10/656,789

Amendment Dated: May 15, 2008

Reply to Office Action dated February 19, 2008

~~upon survey responses by other enterprises. The system method also can receive a request~~  
~~from the user for information from other information sources and the server is further~~  
~~programmed to may~~ formulate an inquiry to an information source in response to the request.